

NH MEDICAL CONTROL BOARD

**Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy
222 Sheep Davis Road
Concord, NH**

MINUTES OF MEETING

May 20, 2004

Members Present: Donavon Albertson, MD; Tom D'Aprix, MD : Chris Fore, MD; Frank Hubbell, DO; Patrick Lanzetta, MD; Jim Martin, MD; Joseph Mastromarino, MD; Douglas McVicar, MD; Sue Prentiss, Bureau Chief; John Sutton, MD; Norman Yanofsky, MD

Members Absent: Jeff Johnson, MD; Joseph Sabato, MD; William Siegart, MD;

Guests: Jon Bouffard, Fred Heinrich, Dave Dubrey, Jeanne Erickson

Bureau Staff: Kathy Doolan, Field Services Coordinator; Will Owen, ALS Coordinator; Fred von Recklinghausen, Research Coordinator; John Clark, ALS Coordinator; Clay Odell, Trauma Coordinator; Wanda Botticello, Executive Secretary

I. CALL TO ORDER

Item 1. The meeting of the EMS & Medical Control Board was called to order by Dr. McVicar on May 20, 2004 at the Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy in Concord, NH.

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Item 1. March 18, 2004 Minutes: Motion was made by Dr. Donavon Albertson and seconded by Dr. John Sutton to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

III. DISCUSSION AND ACTION PROJECTS

Item 1. Board Membership/Reappointments: John Clark

A letter was sent to all the Chairs to ask for nominations to the Medical Control Board for the next 3-year term. At this time we have not heard back from all Region.

Dr. McVicar announced that Dr. Mary Valvano has submitted her resignation from the Medical Control Board. Dr. Tom D'Aprix will be joining the board so the total number of members will not change.

Item 2. Airway Educational Modules: John Clark

John presented a handout of his presentation on Airway Educational Modules. Chief Prentiss and John Clark want to have a standardized package that comes out from NHEMS. We would like to have packets available by June 1st on CD's and ready for request. John will ship all four modules out to the Board. These have been approved at the last meeting. The Chair stated that the modules being sent out are not for approval per se, they are for members to give feedback.

Item 3 Protocols Content Review / ALS Task Force: Dr. Donovan Albertson
Handouts were given in the member's packets regarding Protocols that have been reviewed. Dr. Albertson reviewed current draft revisions with Board Members. Protocols for Review & Discussion were:

- 2.8 Stroke
- 2.9 Hyperthermia
- 2.11 Obstetric Emergencies/Delivery
- 2.18 Vomiting
- 3.2 Bradycardia
- 4.1 Abdominal Injury
- 4.2 Burns
- 4.3 Drowning
- 4.6 Head Injury
- 5.2 IO

The revisions that were discussed today will be posted on the website for review. The Chair thanked Dr. Albertson for the review of the Protocols that were discussed today.

IV. INCUBATING PROJECTS & SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

The Chair suggested to the board that due to the time restraints that the following incubate projects be slipped: ACEP Report, Board of Pharmacy Liaison. This was unanimously agreed upon.

Item 1. CMS Advisory Opinion on COBRA impact of hospital parking lot transfers: John Clark

A letter went out on April 12, 2004 to board members regarding the use of a hospital-owned helipad for a ground EMS unit to transfer a patient directly to an aeromedical unit. A copy of this letter was handed out in the members packets. We requested an advisory opinion from local Region 1 CMS office. The question we asked was, "Does this sort of direct transfer create a potential EMTALA violation?" The decision from Region 1 was that it does not -- as long as two things do not occur. First, the EMS crew cannot ask for assistance from the

hospital, and, second, the patient must not request to go to that hospital. The only time a hospital which owns a helipad at which such a direct transfer from a ground unit to a helicopter takes place would incur EMTALA liability is when they are the receiving hospital, or they are asked for assistance.

Item 2. Emergency Physicians to EMT-P Bridge – John Clark

A draft copy of NHEMS proposal of Emergency Medicine Physician to Paramedic was given to the board this morning. Purposed requirements for EMS Physician Licensure Eligibility would be:

- ◆ Completion of an emergency medicine residency or board certification in Emergency medicine (ABEM or ABOEM)

AND

- ◆ Completion of a recognized EMS fellowship program that includes involvement and expertise in EMS medical direction, education, and research and has provision of out-of-hospital emergency care and supervision of that care at the scene of emergencies.

OR

- ◆ Proof of previous registration as a Nationally Registered Paramedic with 10 years of application.

Discussion persuade amongst board members. The Chair asked that members contact John Clark with further comments. One specific question which was raised was whether the NH Medical Practice Act does not define the practice of medicine so broadly as to include paramedical practice, thus limiting the ability of NHBEMS and the Department of Safety to restrict the EMS activities of licensed physicians. It was decided that John Clark would contact the Board of Medicine to get their opinion about this question.

Item 3. Division and Bureau Report: Director Mason, Sue Prentiss

Director Mason reported that Senate Bill 432 has passed the House and Senate and is on the Governor's desk, waiting to be signed. Once signed this bill becomes law and will make the Fire Marshall's office a stand-alone Division again: the "Division of Fire Safety". The new law will also administratively merge Emergency Communications, (which is E911) and Emergency Management, putting them together in one Division. Although these changes were the main focus of Senate Bill 432, there is also a nominal change for NH BEMS. However it is important to note that this will not change how we have been operating since 2002. What it does do, however, is make the name conform to the practice, by changing the name of the NH Division of Fire Standards and Training to "Division of Fire Standards and Training and Emergency Medical Services." It also gives the NH EMS Coordinating Board the same right of concurrence as the Fire Standards and Training Commission has in the selection of a Division Director.

Funding is going well. We are looking at breaking even this year.

Dr. Albertson asked Director Mason about the infrastructure of command regarding interoperability and incident command in the state of NH. Director Mason stated that the NH Fire Academy has always followed the National Fire Academy in this teaching. Senate Bill 380 will address following the National Standard as a mandate. That bill has passed and is waiting to be signed by the Governor at this time.

Chief Sue Prentiss reported that a copy of the EMS Bureau report was given to board members in their packets. Please to Chief Prentiss's report for full text.

Provider Licensing Summary: As of April 2004, the Bureau licensed 123 Instructor-Coordination and 4,287 providers. The total number of licensed Units is 266.

Bureau of EMS Staff Update: Tammy Fortier's, Licensing Coordinator, daughter Marie was involved in a serious motor-vehicle crash and was critically injured in March. Today, Marie is home, working towards physical and occupational therapy. Overall, Marie is recovering very well. It is with sadness that Sue reports Karen Louis, Education Specialist, lost her father on April 7, 2004. Kim Mattil, Educational Specialist has returned back to work full-time. Our thoughts are with Tammy, Karen and Kim, and their families. Although these staffing emergencies created challenges for everyone, our Bureau staff did a great job keeping business going ahead during this sad and difficult time. Everyone deserves to be commended for an excellent effort!

Protocol Development and Implementation: The Committee continues to meet the first Friday of every month. There are 11 clinical protocols to be completed. The group from there will take on reviewing all the Procedures/Appendices as well as developing at least three additions, including sedation, use of lights and sirens and patients in police custody. Further information and discussion can be found on the Bureau's web site: <http://www.state.nh.us/safety/ems>.

Trauma Triage and Documentation Training for Instructor/Coordination is scheduled to begin in July 2004. Three sessions have been scheduled for:

- ◆ July 13, 2004 Town and Country Motor Inn, Gorham, NH
- ◆ July 22, 2004 Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy, Concord, NH
- ◆ July 27, 2004 Nashua Fire Department Training Room, Nashua, NH

The curriculum and resource guides are under development and will be finalized mid-June 2004. This effort is funded by the Trauma-EMS grant and is focused on improving patient care documentation with the emphasis on Trauma, as well as a refreshing on Trauma Triage. This program will be advertised the second week of June.

Thank you for your time and support of the NHBEMS. If you should have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Bureau.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting of the Medical Control Board.

IV. NEXT MEETING

July 15, 2004 at the Cheshire Medical Ctr. In Keene, NH.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne M. Prentiss, Bureau Chief, EMS

(Prepared by Wanda Botticello, Executive Secretary)